

****Important Notice****
Regarding the Single State Registration System (SSRS)
And the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement (UCRA)

SSRS:

By Federal law the Single State Registration System (SSRS) program ends on January 1, 2007. Various state interests have lobbied Congress to extend the SSRS program an additional year, and there is a provision in a bill pending before Congress to do just that. No action is expected on the bill before December of this year. SSRS States can only continue to collect SSRS fees from motor carriers which are due for operations through the end of calendar year 2006. Maine and other SSRS states may not collect fees for calendar year 2007 either before or after the beginning of that year unless Congress enacts the legislation to extend the SSRS program. If such legislation is enacted then Maine will mail SSRS renewal packets to our SSRS carriers, and it is expected that there will be a grace period extending into the Spring of 2007 to allow States and carriers time to process their SSRS renewals.

UCRA:

The Unified Carrier Registration Agreement (UCRA) is a Federal registration program enacted in the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2005. The UCRA program will replace the SSRS program. Unlike the SSRS program which only required regulated for-hire carriers to be covered by the program, the UCRA applies to all motor carriers required to register with the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), including private, for-hire, and exempt carriers. The UCRA also applies to brokers, freight forwarders, and leasing companies.

UCRA fees will replace the revenue that states have derived from SSRS and other related programs and must be used for motor carrier safety initiatives. UCRA fees will be based on the total number of commercial motor vehicles operated as opposed to the SSRS per-vehicle basis. The number of commercial motor vehicles operated by a carrier is the number of commercial motor vehicles the carrier reported on the most recent Form MCS-150 as filed with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

It is highly unlikely that the UCRA program will be implemented by January 1, 2007. The UCRA Board has been established and has met several times. The Board is charged with drafting the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement, drafting a model State plan, establishing and developing the UCR database system, and establishing the UCR fee structure. None of these charges have been completed to date. A web-based application may be developed that would allow both carriers and State offices to process applications online. If the SSRS program is not extended and the UCRA program has a delayed implementation in 2007, it is expected that there will be a grace period for carriers to comply with the program requirements.

SSRS/UCRA updates will be posted periodically as new information becomes available.